

Surplus Computers Provide Broadband Access to Public

Rep. Rocky Adkins and Sen. Walter Blevins joined representatives from the Office of Broadband Outreach and Development (OBOD) and Community Action Kentucky (CAK) to unveil donated surplus state computers at the Northeast Kentucky Community Action Agency in Sandy Hook in Elliott County on April 19. OBOD facilitated this donation, which brings the total number of computers given to Community Action Kentucky locations around the state to more than 50.

Brian Kiser, executive director of OBOD, said "Community action agencies are good partners for helping us expand public access to technology because they serve a large variety of people throughout the entire state."

OBOD is not only working to increase broadband access across the state, but it is also trying to get Kentuckians to adopt and use the technology for learning, accessing

services or looking for a job. The public can use the computers at 20 Community Action Kentucky locations around the state from Fulton to Greenup counties.

OBOD plans to have at least 100 computers in additional CAK locations by the end of the year.



Left to right: David Carroll, NE KY Community Action Agency; Elliott County Judge Executive Carl Fannin; Rep. Rocky Adkins; Sen. Walter Blevins; Rob Jones, Community Action Kentucky; and Brian Kiser, Office of Broadband Outreach & Development.

New Electric Vehicles at Div. of Fleet Management and Energy & Environment Cabinet

First Lady Jane Beshear welcomed the first electric vehicles into the state vehicle fleet on Monday, April 22 in a ceremony that kicked off a day of Earth Day activities. Sec. Lori Flanery and Energy and Environment Cabinet (EEC) Secretary Len Peters joined the First Lady in the ribbon-cutting. EEC has four Chevy Volts on the road and Fleet Management will soon have two electric vehicles in service by June.





“The Finance Cabinet is always looking for ways to reduce the state’s carbon footprint,” said Lori H. Flanery, secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet. “With that in mind, the Division of Fleet Management has ordered two Chevy Volts for postal services to use in and around Frankfort. Short, local trips, where the driver can use the electric engine exclusively, could realize anywhere from 50 to 100 percent fuel cost savings.”

Sec. Flanery took a Chevy Volt for a spin around the Capitol.

eScrap Spring Cleaning Event Needs Volunteers

The Finance Cabinet is planning another e-Scrap spring cleaning day on Friday, May 17 for state government employees to recycle their old, unwanted personal electronics. Volunteers are needed to help at the drop off site, which is soon to be determined. Volunteers are needed for the following shifts: 7:30 to 9 a.m., 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

If you are interested in helping, please notify Pamela Trautner, at 564-4240 or Pamela.trautner@ky.gov. You must receive prior approval from your immediate supervisor and document such.

KY Digital Summit an Explorer’s Paradise

About 400 state and local government IT professionals gathered at the Capital Plaza Hotel for the 14th annual Kentucky Digital Summit. The conference honed in on the fast-changing world of IT and keynote speaker, noted explorer and educator Josh Bernstein, said that everyone is an explorer whether they know it or not, particularly in government IT. Traveling across uncharted terrain: the economy, social media, the cloud, and more—makes for an interesting journey.

Bernstein noted that all explorers definitely have one thing in common: they always look forward and rarely look backward. The spirit of exploration and adventure lives on, now more than ever, because technology makes it possible for anyone to be an explorer in their own right. Other sessions throughout the day explored should government try to be “cool,” big data and analyzing that data, mobile applications, broadband access and much more.



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